Sky

There is a strong prejudice against unmarried adults, and both youths and maidens are set by their parents some other to be betrothed that have reached maturity, usually at sixteen years for the girls and eighteen for the boys. Strong feeling in view found against marriage of a daughter younger than one of her unmarried sisters. Romantic love, just as it is understood in Europe and America, is a prominent feature of adolescence, although there is little element of any physical realization given to the wedding. A youth and maiden in love may arrange more meetings in secret, and exchange gifts, ceremonial headpieces, flowers, apples, or even rings. If both are Christian, they may seek solace in one another. Most of these affairs, however, are confined to the exchange of passionate glances on public festivals, such as a birth, a circumcision, or one of the religious feasts, and are ended by one or the other of the two parties being engaged to some other person. Several young men told of their love for girls in adolescence, and how their parents had slightingly terminated them, youths and maidens alike, by proving they hardly knew or did not particularly desire. It is possible for either a youth or a maiden to talk an such circumstance, sometimes with success. "If a daughter loves a certain youth and her parents ask her to marry another, she may refuse them. She cannot reveal the identity of her loved one to her father or brother (sometimes the youth is unaware of this passion), but her mother usually knows the person of whom she is enamored,